

In the Claims:

Claim 1(amended). A method of communicating with a built-in sensor, the sensor receiving a supply voltage externally via a voltage supply line and outputting an output signal with successive signal pulses, the method which comprises the steps of:

placing the sensor into a detection mode;

a5 externally modulating the supply voltage on the voltage supply line connected to the sensor;

analyzing the modulated supply voltage received in the sensor with regard to a fulfillment of a predetermined criterion stored in the sensor;

interpreting the received modulated supply voltage as an external communication signal if the criterion is fulfilled;

switching the sensor to a mode different from the detection mode if the criterion is fulfilled; and

in the different mode, outputting an output signal related to the different mode.